

## 2008 Ashland Martin Luther King jr Celebration Report



(SOU International Student's "We have a dream")

Claudia Alick personal notes: Before Tim Bond left he explicitly told me this was once of the events OSF supported and that we should not lose. The University used to help with the curation through its World Music program. This program has been discontinued so it looks like the only creative support is coming from OSF. Michele Zundel a principle from the school district has explicitly requested heavy creative support from us.

I began by relocating the planning meetings the Black Sheep to OSF Camps Conference room. This has helped a lot! The committee is made up of volunteers from around the city and school district and community. They have been doing this for years and have a wealth of experience. This is a community planning group, so the process is not as efficient as a professional process, but lots more fun. The group is full of dedication to this event and making the valley a better place for people of color. I am the only person of color on the committee and will change this as soon as possible.



I collaborated in planning with our audience development manager who was extremely helpful with press. Stage management has requested to not be involved due to other work duties and frankly not having patience to work with the community committee member's lack of professionalism in house management areas. Surprisingly little participation from other associate producer. First year in the job and he feels he doesn't have room to collaborate. We discussed some company members in the company who could be included in the show but at this point we have around the same knowledge of company talent. Support from Ben Cobb has helped the technical support and professionalism. Chris Woods is good at teching the shows and Ben is great at filling in the gaps. Have company acts in show is great and everyone volunteered readily. I actually said yes to too many acts. While my performance the show went well the amount of press I need to speak with plus directing the show makes doing a "streetpoem" not realistic" I'll probably not do it again for this show. Having Bill Rauch as the keynote was just great and this was the perfect way to introduce him to the community.



Over all I am proud of the process and result. We learned a lot but this community collaborative event was large, smoothly produced, inspiring, and had a mix of great performance and heart based work.



**Anecdotal feedback:**



The event was AWESOME! Kudos to Claudia and Michelle. Again and again, events like this drive home how lucky my kids are to be in such a wonderful community and district.

--

*Wendy Werthaiser-Kent  
Director, AHS Speech and Debate*

I just wanted to let you know how honored I was to be a part of the celebration yesterday. You all did a fantastic job putting it together and it was wonderful to be part of it. Thank you. Thank you!!

See you soon.

*Aisha Wand*

I just wanted to say thanks so much for allowing me to write and perform an original piece for such a great great event. I was really impressed with everything.

*Warmly, Joseph Midyett*

Thank YOU for chairing the event! It was truly an inspiring afternoon. But we need a bigger venue next year! It's such an amazing event for our wee town that it's sad that so many people were turned away.

Mary Bagshaw

Human Resources Associate  
Oregon Shakespeare Festival



YOU'RE THE BOMB. I thought today was one of the most beautiful community events I've ever seen here.

*David Kelly*

THANK YOU for all your work. I was moved by so many moments during the day and felt a sense of Ashland being MY community.

Congratulations on a very successful event!

*Kimiko, FAIR Experience Manager, Oregon Shakespeare Festival*

## Thank note to company



The MLK Day Celebration was a big success. Over 800 audience members packed the house and the entertainment was superb. Bill Rauch gave an insightful and inspirational speech as the keynote speaker. David Kelly helped organize Aisha Wand's youth dance group, Joseph Midyett, Ryan Anderson, and Edgar Miguel Sanchez performed an original piece called "Let Freedom Ring" that ended with an exciting rap. A small clip was seen as part of the evening news! Shona Tucker, G Val Thomas, Cameron Knight, Gwendolyn Mulumba, and Michael Keck brought the house down as The OSF Jubilee Singers with "Precious Lord". The audience was screaming, standing, clapping and dancing. It was a beautiful and powerful ending to a great show. Jenny Graham took photos. A big shout out to Freda Casillas, Kevin Bendaw, and Alison Carey for investing time and effort to help plan and run the event.

Thanks to all the OSF company members who came to support and participate as audience members!!

Thanks to all the great community participants and other contributors to the show.

- Opening music: "Drum Major Instinct" by Lauren Cregor from THE LAST YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AS DEvised BY WATERWELL: A ROCK OPERETTA
- SOU professor DL Richardson Hosting
- A message from Tim Bond
- Tish McFadden and Walker School 3rd and 4th graders singing joined onstage by Steve Fain on bass, Duane Whitcomb on violin.
- Commitment cards inspired by Birmingham Campaign pledge cards for every audience member

- Aisha Wand's Hip-hop dancing classes
- Planned Parenthood's Teen Theatre with Nisha Burton, Amiee Canfield, Ryan Garrett, Austin King, Jeremy Kotler, Nick Mantheakis, Molly Murphy, and Maia Smidt. directed by Cil Stengel
- SOU International Students with a multilingual "I have a Dream Speech; Bandar Al-Harbi (Arabic), Jamile Cerquera (Brazil, Portuguese), SamJun "Calvin" Cho (Korean), Melanie Aguilar Facconier (French), Riyo Iwasaki (Japanese), Ixel Sanchez (Spanish), and Janett Wellner (German)
- Savannah Williams singing
- "One Movement" performing an original song about MLK
- AHS Championship Speech and Debate Team presenting MLK speeches
- Claudia Alick presenting a poem written by the audience
- Fun Art Club from Unete, Center for Farm Worker Advocacy: Nick Morales, Edgar Escareno, Emmanuel Escareno, Alex Fuentes, Angelica Bautista, Ciria Campos, Jessica Morga, Karen Morga, Rosa Esquivel.
- Beth Baker singing and pianist Brent Olstad
- Black Student Union of SOU presenting a stomp performance: Daniel Golden (Spidey), Brooke Aderonmu, Brittany Dixon, Nicole Jolly, Greg Grant Jr., Chris Draper, Jamilie Cerqueira, Jonathan Keim, and Gideon Lindsay
- A march of audience and performers to the square where we listened to Martin Luther King's full "I Have a Dream" speech, through loudspeakers thanks to Preston Moser

*Thanks to Printfast for printing the posters and commitment cards; House Volunteers: AmeriCorp Volunteers, Ashland High School Students, Community members; Cindy and Carl Darnell, of Earth Shirts, for providing house volunteers with MLK shirts; Ashland's Deluxe Awning, for donating half the cost of the new "Celebrate the Dream" street banner hung on Main Street; the Sign Language Interpreters; Alan DeBoer, donating the use of the Armory Thanks to our sponsors Ashland School District, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the City of Ashland, Jefferson Public Radio and Southern Oregon University; Veteran's Administration and veteran guests; City Administrator's office and Ashland Police Department; Ashley at Student Publicity Center at SOU; Fawnda and the Night Hawk Graphic's Staff for donation of MLK Commitment poster worth over \$700; the businesses around the armory for sharing the parking spaces with us; Piano Studios and Showcase for tuning the piano for the event; Brad Eastburn for excellent photography AND all the planning committee members who made this happen especially, Michelle Zundell for taking a leadership position, Chris Wood, Kathy Scott, Cynthia Maclaren, Dan Hamnett, Freda Casillas, Teresa Peterson, Kevin Bendaw, Alison Carey, and Artistic Direction from Claudia Alick*

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**20th Annual Ashland**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration**

**The 20th annual Ashland Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday celebration is scheduled for 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday, January 21 at the Historic Ashland Armory in downtown Ashland.** Produced by a group of community volunteers and sponsored by the Ashland School District, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the City of Ashland, Jefferson Public Radio and Southern Oregon University, the event is free and open to the public. People are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to Rogue Valley food banks.

The theme for this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration year is commitment. This show is a community wide recommitment to the ideals of civil rights, inclusion, social justice through non violence, compassion, and courage.

This year, Bill Rauch, the new artistic director of Oregon Shakespeare Festival will provide the keynote speech. D.L Richardson, charismatic Southern Oregon University instructor will return as the Master of Ceremony. Keeping with the tradition of the community celebration, students from the Ashland School District, SOU, OSF actors and diverse community groups will contribute songs, dances and dramatic performances. Multimedia excerpts from Dr. Kings' speeches and video archives will punctuate the program.

Dr. King's volunteers signed a commitment card during the Birmingham Campaign, outlining the principles of the movement. In honor of his work, audience members will be given a commitment card inspired by MLK and created by the planning committee, to invite everyone to carry his message into their every day life.

Come celebrate as a community! Seating is always limited and available on a first come basis. Each year the event reaches standing room only by 12 noon. The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. All ages are welcome but parents are urged to stay with their children during the event.

*For further press information or questions, please contact Claudia Alick 482-2111 x435 or Michelle Zundel, 482-1611 x182. Thank You!*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*  
Holiday Celebration



*Live the Dream*  
Celebrate Together

Bill Rauch (Artistic Director, Oregon Shakespeare Festival), Beth Baker, One Movement hip hop, Ashland High School Speech and Debate, Tish McFadden and Ashland School District students, Unete Centro de los Campesinos e Inmigrantes, SOU International Students, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Company Members, Danceworks, SOU's Black Student Union, Planned Parenthood, Claudia Alick and Master of Ceremonies DL Richardson

Monday, January 21, 2008

Noon to 1:30 pm

Historic Ashland Armory

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

Please bring a non-perishable food donation

Sponsored by Ashland School District, Oregon Shakespeare Festival,  
Southern Oregon University, Jefferson Public Radio, City of Ashland





## COMMITMENT CARD

1. I commit to be emotionally, spiritually and physically good to myself and others.
2. I commit to recognize that sincere giving is receiving.
3. I commit to practice silence when necessary and a gentle voice when needed.
4. I commit to refrain from the violence of fist, tongue, or heart.
5. I commit to fight discrimination and ignorance by actively seeking knowledge and understanding.
6. I commit to perform regular service for others and for the world.
7. I commit to remember always that the non-violent movement seeks justice and reconciliation, not victory.
8. I commit to respect the religious or spiritual beliefs of other as I do my own.
9. I commit to take daily action in order that all people might be free.
10. I commit to live with courage, compassion, and joy.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, commit.



*Dear Dr. King Jr.,  
In honor of your sacrifice for all of human kind,  
I commit to practice the following commitments:*

- I commit to be emotionally, spiritually and physically good to myself and others.
  - I commit to recognize that sincere giving is receiving.
  - I commit to practice silence when necessary and a gentle voice when needed.
  - I commit to refrain from the violence of fist, tongue, or heart.
  - I commit to fight discrimination and ignorance by actively seeking knowledge and understanding.
  - I commit to perform regular service for others and for the world.
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  - I commit to respect the religious or spiritual beliefs of others as I do my own.
  - I commit to take daily action in order that all people might be free.
  - I commit to live with courage, compassion, and joy.
- I, \_\_\_\_\_, commit.

**Thank you Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,  
(January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968)**



## PRESS LINKS

[http://www.dailytidings.com/2008/0121/stories/0121\\_mlk.php](http://www.dailytidings.com/2008/0121/stories/0121_mlk.php)

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080118/TEMPO/801180310&cid=sitesearch>

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080122/NEWS/801210322>

**MLK Show Schedule (as of Jan 19)**

Call Time is 11:00 sharp!!

<b>Name</b>	<b>Act</b>	<b>Length</b>
1. intro music	From musical	
2. VIDEO	VIDEO - "Dream 4"	1:30 min
3. DL Richardson	Opening Remarks, Tim Bond Message	4:00 min
4. Tish McFadden & Walker School gr3/4	Youth Singing with instruments	4:00 min
5. DL Richardson	Commitment card context, thank you	3:00 min
6. Aisha Wand	Youth Dance Group	3:00 min
7. DL Richardson	Thanks	1:00 min
8. OSF Company Actors Joseph Midyett and Ryan Anderson	"Let Freedom Ring" an original piece	3:00 min
9. DL Richardson	Read commitments	1:00 min
10. International Students	Multilingual MLK speech	3:00 min
11. DL Richardson	Thanks	1:00 min
12. Planned Parenthood Theater	Teen Theatre Piece-spoken word/hip-hop	5:00 min
13. DL Richardson	Read commitments	1:00 min
14. Savannah Williams	Youth solo singing	3:00 min
15. VIDEO	VIDEO- "Memphis"	00:58 min
16. DL Richardson	Context for video	2:00 min
17. One Movement	Hip-hop song about MLK	3:00 min
18. DL Richardson	Thanks	1:00 min
19. AHS Speech and Debate	MLK Speeches	4:00 min
20. DL Richardson	thanks	1:00 min
21. Claudia Alick	Street-Poetry written by the audience	2:00 min
22. DL Richardson	commitments	1:00 min
23. Unité	Youth Poetry on Cesar Chavez	4:00 min
24. DL Richardson	thanks	1:00 min
25. Aisha Wand	Teen Dance Group	3:00 min
26. DL Richardson	commitments	1:00 min
27. Beth Baker	Song	2:00 min
28. VIDEO	VIDEO- "Church"	00:44 min
29. DL Richardson	introduce Bill	1:00 min
30. Bill Rauch	Keynote Address	5:00 min
31. DL Richardson	thanks	1:00 min
32. OSF actors	Gospel singing	3:00 min
33. DL Richardson	Closing remarks, describe march	1:00 min
34. Black Student Union	Stomp Dance	4:00 min
35. outro music	Sam Cook Song plays us out of space	

### MLK Tech Schedule as Jan 19

Please arrive ten minutes early for your tech time.

Name	Act	Tech Time	NEED
Space Opens	Set up chairs,	8:15 am	Chairs,
DL Richardson	MC	(arrival 11:15)	
Claudia Alick	Poetry written by Audience	As needed	
Bill Rauch	Keynote Address	In at 11:40	mic
Multimedia Video and Music	Finalize sound, video equipment	9:00-9:30	sound, video equipment
Savannah Williams	Youth solo singing	9:30-9:40	Cd, mic
One Movement	Hip-hop song about MLK and commitment	9:40-9:50	Cd, mics
Black Student Union	Stomp Dance	9:50-10:00	No tech
SOU International Students Group	Multilingual MLK speech	10:00-10:10	mics
Planned Parenthood Theater	Teen Theatre Piece	10:10-10:20	mics
AHS Speech and Debate	MLK Speeches	10:20-10:30	mics
Unité	Youth Poetry Cesar Chavez	10:30-10:40	Mics, backdrop
Aisha Wand	Teen Dance Group	10:40-10:45	cd
Aisha Wand	Youth Dance Group	10:45-10:50	cd
OSF Company Members	Theatre scene on homelessness	10:50-11:00	v.o. god mic CD
OSF Company Members	Gospel Song	11:00-11:10	Piano/mic
Beth Baker	Song	11:10-11:20	Piano/mics??
Tish McFadden & Walker School gr3/4	Youth Singing with instruments	11:20-11:30	mics
MISC	Overflow time-door might open early	11:30-11:45	
Doors Open		11:45	
Show Begins		12:00	

Act	Act info
intro music	<p>“Drum Major Instinct” by Lauren Cregor from THE LAST YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AS DEVISED BY WATERWELL: A ROCK OPERETTA</p>
VIDEO	VIDEO - "Dream 4"
DL Richardson	<p>Opening Remarks, Tim Bond Message</p> <p>Hello Ashland!</p> <p>"I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Freedom"</p> <p>It is with great joy and commitment that I send my love to all of you who are gathered today in celebration of the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As many of you know I had the privilege of participating on Ashland’s MLK Day Celebration committee for all of the 11 years I served as an Associate Artistic Director for Oregon Shakespeare Festival. I loved every minute of my work on this committee with Maria, DL, Nancy and the rest of the current team along with all of the other deeply committed folks who first began the celebration like Tom, Mary, Ted, Kirk, Barbara, the Judge and others. My life has been transformed by the SOU students, teenagers and young children, OSF Company members, local community and guest artists who have performed and spoken at these events through the years.</p> <p>For me MLK day will always be a day to reconnect and seek other folks in the community who are committed to the ideals of social justice, civil rights, racial justice and pluralism. It is time to renew faith in Human Rights, to fight for freedom, to teach our children courage and peaceful protest and to wage love. I believe that we can create a peaceful world where people of all faiths, cultures, classes, skin colors, and abilities can coexist in harmony.</p> <p>Keep the faith, embrace your neighbor, and live the dream...</p> <p>Tim Bond</p>
Tish McFadden and Walker School 3rd and 4th graders	<p>Sixteen years ago Tish McFadden wrote the song “Share The World” to help young people in Ashland understand the timeless message of Martin Luther King, Jr. She is honored to share it with you today, joined onstage by Steve Fain on bass, Duane Whitcomb on violin, and the beautiful singing students of Lynn Fain and Debi Blair at Walker School. Let’s come together now and SHARE THE WORLD!</p>
DL Richardson	<p>Commitment card context: During the Birmingham campaign volunteers were asked to sign a pledge card that committed themselves to the non-violent movement. In this same spirit the members of the celebration planning committee created a card that recommits us to some of the ideals Martin Luther</p>

	<p>King has come to stand for. By signing it and carrying it with us it can be a daily reminder that these are standards not to just celebrate for a day but to live for the entire year. They will be read aloud during the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to Printfast for printing the posters and commitment cards</li> </ul>
Aisha Wand	Youth dance group
DL Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to House Volunteers: Ameri Corp Volunteers, Ashland High School Students, Community members</li> <li>• thanks to Cindy and Carl Darnell, of Earth Shirts, for providing house volunteers with MLK shirts; tee shirts are available for sale at the back of the armory</li> </ul>
OSF Actors	"Let Freedom Ring" and original piece with OSF Company Actors Joseph Midyett and Ryan Anderson
DL Richardson	Read Commitments 1,2,3
SOU International Students	"We Have Dream" Bandar Al-Harbi (Arabic), Jamile Cerquera (Brazil, Portuguese), SamJun "Calvin" Cho (Korean), Melanie Aguilar Facconier (French), Riyo Iwasaki (Japanese), Ixel Sanchez (Spanish), and Janett Wellner (German)
DL Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to Ashland's Deluxe Awning, for donating half the cost of the new "Celebrate the Dream" street banner hung on Main Street</li> <li>• Thanks to Sign Language Interpreters</li> <li>• Alan DeBoer, donating the use of the Armory</li> </ul>
Planned Parenthood Theater	Planned Parenthood's Teen Theatre has been performing dynamic, unforgettable and yes, educational theatre throughout Oregon for 20 years. The program is county-wide--the actors come from different high schools in the Rogue Valley. On stage today we have Nisha Burton, Amiee Canfield, Ryan Garrett, Austin King, Jeremy Kotler, Nick Mantheakis, Molly Murphy, and Maia Smidt. The group is directed by Cil Stengel. Most of the piece you are about to see was written by one of the performers...Nisha Burton. Please welcome Planned Parenthood's Teen Theatre.
DL Richardson	Read Commitments 4,5
Savannah Williams	"Go Light Your World" by Chris Rice
VIDEO	VIDEO- "Memphis"
DL Richardson	Context for video clip i.e. this is was right before he was shot.
One Movement	An original song written for this event. One Movement: Face, Einstein, Julius Powell, Ry-Guy, and Lucy B
DL Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to our sponsors Ashland School District, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the City of Ashland, Jefferson Public Radio and Southern Oregon University</li> <li>• Thanks to Veteran's Administration (ask Kathy Scott for more info on this)</li> <li>• thanks to City Administrator's office and Ashland Police Department</li> </ul>
AHS Speech and	

Debate	
DL Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to Ashley at Student Publicity Center at SOU</li> <li>• Fawnda and the Night Hawk Graphic's Staff for donation of MLK Commitment poster worth over \$700.</li> <li>• Thanks to The businesses around the armory for sharing the parking spaces with us.</li> <li>• Thanks to Piano Studios and Showcase for tuning the piano for the event</li> </ul>
Claudia Alick	Reading a poem generated by the Audience by a form of surrealist poetry writing she calls "Street-Poetry: Poetry By the People For the People"
DL Richardson	Read Commitments 6,7,8
Fun Art Club from Unete, Center for Farm Worker Advocacy	Located in Medford Unete serves farm workers and immigrants throughout the valley offering advocacy, educational services and promoting fairness and justice for immigrants. Performers- Nick Morales, Edgar Escareno, Emmanuel Escareno, Alex Fuentes, Angelica Bautista, Ciria Campos, Jessica Morga, Karen Morga, Rosa Esquivel.
DL Richardson	Thanks to ACCESS: for providing us containers and transportation for the food collected here today. Access has been helping Jackson County residents break the cycle of poverty since 1976. With a focus on education, ACCESS helps low-income families and seniors through economic crisis by guiding them through changes in the habits that help them become self-sustaining. ACCESS currently serves 1 in 4 Jackson County residents through 25 programs designed to address issues from one-time emergencies to longer-term issues.
Aisha Wand	Teen dance
DL Richardson	Read commitment 9-10
Beth Baker	Pianist's name is Brent Olstad
VIDEO	VIDEO- "Church"
DL Richardson	Intro Bill Rauch
Bill Rauch	Keynote Address-Artistic Director Oregon Shakespeare Festival, He co-founded the community-based Cornerstone Theater Company in Los Angeles, where he was artistic director for twenty years, during which time he directed over forty plays, Winner of "Leadership for a Changing World" award
DL Richardson	Thanks to all the committee members who made this happen especially Michelle for taking a leadership position. Chris Wood, Michelle Zundel, Kathy Scott, Cynthia Maclaren, Dan Hamnett, Freda Casillas, Teresa Peterson, Kevin Bendaw, and Artistic Direction from Claudia Alick
OSF Jubilee Singers	Shona Tucker, G Val Thomas, Cameron Knight, Gwendolyn Mulumba, and Michael Keck
DL Richardson	Closing Remarks and describe march out of space
Black Student Union	Step routine. Daniel Golden (Spidey), Brooke Aderonmu, Brittany Dixon, Nicole

of SOU	Jolly, Greg Grant Jr., Chris Draper, Jamilie Cerqueira, Jonathan Keim, and Gideon Linsday
outro music	Sam Cook Song plays us out of space
	March to Plaza
	Listen to I Have a Dream speech broadcast at plaza.